

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In numbered paragraph 3 of the Office Action mailed November 24, claims 3, 5-7, 14, and 15 were "still only objected to." In the previous office action mailed July 1, 2003, claims 3, 5-7, 14, and 15 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants have amended allowable claims 3, 5, and 14 so that they appear in independent form and include all of the limitations of the base claims. Applicants believe that amended independent claims 3, 5, and 14 are now in condition for allowance.

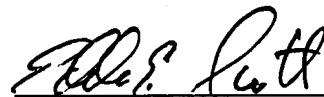
Applicants have amended claim 4 to depend from allowable claim 3 as amended to appear in independent form. Applicants have amended claim 6 to depend from allowable claim 5. Applicants have amended claim 15 to depend from allowable claim 14. Applicants believe that amended dependent claims 4, 6, and 15 are now in condition for allowance because they depend from allowable claims.

Applicants have cancelled all of the other claims.

SUMMARY

The undersigned respectfully submits that, in view of the foregoing amendments and the foregoing remarks, all the requirements set forth in the Office Action mailed November 24, 2003 have been fully addressed and met. The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. It is respectfully requested that this application be reconsidered, that the claims be allowed, and that this case be passed to issue. If it is believed that a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of the present application, or clarify matters with regard to its allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (925) 424-6897.

Respectfully submitted,



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